

SITUATION REPORT

1– 7 October 2007

UNITED NATIONS
Office for the Coordination of
Humanitarian Affairs in Burundi
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Bureau pour la Coordination des
Affaires Humanitaires au Burundi
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ACTIVITIES AND UPDATES

Update on repatriation and refugees

Over the reporting week, UNHCR registered 1,153 Burundian refugees who arrived from Tanzania through the entry points of Kobero/Muyinga Province (423), Gisuru/Ruyigi Province (414) and Mabanda/Makamba Province (316). In 2007, a total of 27,508 Burundian refugees have returned to their home country from Tanzania and 239 from other countries. So far, 366,508 Burundians have returned under the UNHCR facilitated repatriation process which began in April 2002. No DRC refugees were transferred from Bujumbura Mairie to Musasa transit center/Ngozi Province during.

Implementation of agricultural season 2008-A almost completed

Activities aimed at implementing the agricultural season 2008A will meet the completion deadline set for mid October. To date FAO/Emergency Rehabilitation and Coordination Unit (ERCU) has distributed approximately 95% of seed and agricultural tools to identified vulnerable families. Meanwhile, FAO/ERCU is preparing to start a quality seed multiplication programme and promotion of fruit plants for season 2008A. In this regard, Intermon Oxfam supports community associations with the production of 300,000 plants (grevillea, calliandra, leucaena, mesopsis and eucalyptus) through 6 nurseries in Kayogoro (2) and Nyanza-Lac (4) communes/Makamba province.

Food security: livestock rehabilitation

Under the framework of the regional project for the reinforcement of food security for vulnerable populations affected by conflict in the Great Lakes Region, FAO/ERCU organized a training session for community animal health assistants. Supported by Spain, the project which started in June 2007 aims to: rehabilitate households' livestock through the distribution of 4,800 goats in the Provinces of Cibitoke, Bujumbura Rural and Bubanza; provide support to national veterinary structures and assist in setting up networks for community animal health assistants. So far 50 community animal health assistants in targeted Provinces have been trained in animal anatomy and physiology, frequent animal diseases in Burundi and ways to prevent or treat them. Furthermore, participants were introduced to various techniques related to livestock rearing including; animal feeding, reproduction and treatment. Practice exercises included: presentation of commonly used products and dosage, de-worming, injections and thermometry.

A photograph showing several people sitting at desks in a classroom-like setting, engaged in a theoretical session.	A photograph showing a group of people gathered around a table, practicing dosage procedures with various products.	A photograph showing a person administering an injection to a cow, with others observing the practice.
Community assistants during theoretical session, FAO, October 2007	Product dosage practice, FAO, October 2007	Injection practice, FAO, October 2007

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Vulnerable persons participate in their own reinsertion

Since August, the Government Project for the reintegration of war-affected persons (PARESI) has undertaken construction of 300 houses at the village of Nyarunazi/Muyinga Province where beneficiaries are returnee families, internally displaced persons and expelled Burundians from Tanzania without addresses who were temporarily lodged in the transit sites of Kinazi/Muyinga Province and Songore/Ngozi Province.

Ancilla Nahimana, mother of 4 children and widow whose husband was killed in 1994 has been identified by the project as one of the beneficiaries. Ancilla is yet to be reassured of the security situation and has definitely ruled-out the idea of returning to her *colline* of origin. She earns 1,500 Francs Bu per day through manual labor. She is now happy to contribute in the construction of the village and hopes that the Government will provide her with some land to cultivate.

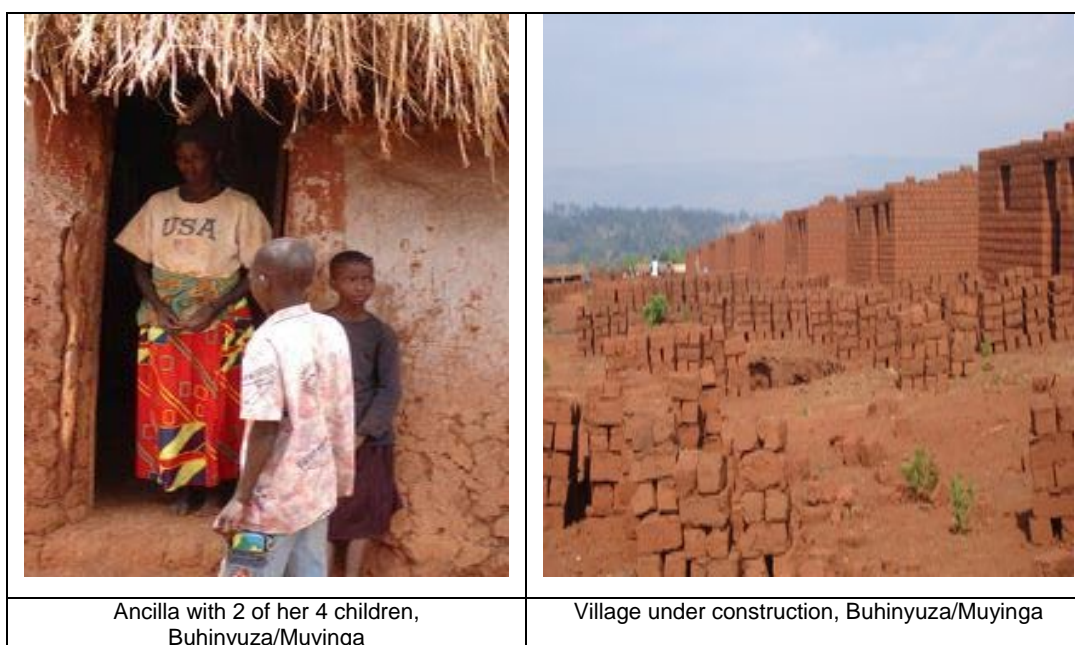


Photo: OCHA, October 2007

Update on food aid distribution

During the week under review, WFP distributed 548 MT of food to 57,437 beneficiaries including 37,495 persons for the seed protection rations (SPR) in collaboration with its partners. WFP has therefore completed the SPR distribution for 459,350 targeted beneficiaries for the agricultural season 2008-A.

Increased efforts to provide assistance to victims of sexual gender based violence (GBV)

International Medical Corps (IMC)/Burundi will soon start a GBV project with the aim of building the capacity of public health centers in the better management of GBV cases. The project has identified 20 health centers in Rutana and Makamba Provinces.

Education

With the objective to further support the Burundi educational system, UNICEF delivered 2.5 tons for the construction of a handicraft training centre in Bujumbura Mairie (300) and a primary school in Bujumbura Rural (275). Another 650 bags were donated to the provincial education departments of Bubanza and Makamba Provinces for the construction and rehabilitation of primary schools.

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Meningitis alert

The Ministry of Public Health has gathered partners involved in the health sector on October 10 to discuss emergency response to meningitis outbreak in Nyabitsinda Commune/Ruyigi Province.